

Red Armies Launch Drive Against Poles

Berlin Reports Bolsheviks Have Opened Offensive And Defenders of Border Announce Repulse

Letvia Delegation Arrives at Warsaw

New State Sends Envoys to Discuss Peace Plan Offered by Lenin's Aids

LONDON, March 7.—Large forces of Bolsheviks have opened an offensive against the Poles on both sides of the Pripet region, says a dispatch to "The Central News" from Berlin.

The dispatch adds that the Poles report the enemy was repulsed with heavy losses.

WARSAW, March 7.—The delegation from Letvia, which is to attend the conference with the Russian Bolsheviks, arrived here today. It consists of the former chief of staff, the Foreign Minister, the Director of the Foreign Department and a military aid.

WARSAW, March 6 (By The Associated Press).—A formal conference to frame the answer of Poland and the border states to the peace proposals will open Monday, but preliminary meetings already have been held by the military chiefs to consider thoroughly the plans made previously for defensive warfare in the event the peace negotiations fail.

The Finnish, Lettish and Rumanian delegates are here and the Ukrainians are expected soon. There is a possibility that Lithuania, and eventually Estonia, will participate in the consultation, which it is generally believed will determine Poland's next move in her stand against Bolshevism.

Poland Demands Damages

Diplomats here say that the opening of negotiations between Poland and the Soviet government hinges on the Polish demands for restitution and damages since the occupation of the territory in 1917. An unofficial dispatch from Moscow says the Bolsheviks already have taken an attitude intimating that they have no desire even to open negotiations if Poland demands the frontier of 1917, as outlined by the Polish Diet's peace commission.

Should Poland insist on the demand and the Bolsheviks refuse to acquiesce, diplomats here say it would mean a continuation of the present situation. The Poles are said to be determined to take some definite action within a few weeks.

It is understood that the peace program which is to be presented to the conference on Monday will be submitted to the Allied powers for approval. The border states are said to be eager to reach a decision, particularly because of the approach of spring, when the long-advancing Bolsheviks have been driven back to the frontier.

Border States Talk Peace

Several of the representatives of the border states have shown restlessness. The Lettish Foreign Minister, M. Meiralis, in Riga, has announced that unless the conference reaches a decision the Lettish and the Finnish, and possibly the Lithuanians, will consider a separate peace with Russia.

M. Pilsudski, the Polish President, in an interview, declared that Poland did not wish to consider peace alone, but desired the opinion of the border states.

"The meeting in Warsaw," said President Pilsudski, "is the first step for unity by the Eastern countries of Europe, and in it Poland, in accordance with its historic mission, will take first place."

The general opinion here is that the answer to the Soviet peace proposals will be dispatched about April 1.

The allegations of a German-Bolshevik intrigue for an invasion of Lithuania, primarily in the German language newspapers, here, include the charge that 38,000 German troops have been concentrated in East Prussia, prepared to invade Lithuania. It is intended to claim necessity for this action because of the recent invasion of Poland by the Bolsheviks.

Early messages have declared that the Lithuanian government had a secret connection with Germany and that it was believed by Dutch merchants in Kovno and other Lithuanian towns, who were closing their businesses and leaving the country, that there was a possibility that a Bolshevik force which was under the command of a German general intended invading Lithuania from the east.

HELSINGFORS, March 7.—The Finnish general staff has received news that the white troops in the Murman attacking the Finnish positions at Sueter after a heavy artillery bombardment on Wednesday.

Hoover to Declare He Is Republican, Report Says

Minneapolis Men, Conferring With Candidate in New York, Send Tip Back Home

Special Dispatch to The Tribune

MINNEAPOLIS, March 7.—Minneapolis men who have been in conference in New York City with Herbert Hoover for several days expect Mr. Hoover to declare himself a Republican and declare himself a Republican and declare himself a Republican.

James F. Minneapolis miller, associated with Mr. Hoover in the administration, went to New York City, and Wednesday H. P. Wickham, secretary of the Herbert Hoover Club of Minneapolis, also departed for New York. No less than fifty friends of Mr. Hoover have been in conference with him during the week, and he is expected to reach the conclusion that he will take a definite stand. His decision, it is expected, will align him definitely with the Republican party and will declare his platform.

League Called To Act on Russia

PARIS, March 6.—A formal call by the Allied Supreme Council for an extraordinary meeting of the executive council of the league of nations to be held at Paris on March 12 for examining the question of sending an investigating committee to Russia under the control of the league has been issued.

LONDON, March 6.—The commission which it is expected the league of nations executive council will decide to send to Russia will consist of ten members, it is understood. France, Great Britain, Italy, Japan and Belgium and five smaller nations will be represented.

U. S. to Permit Resumption of Russian Trade

Statement Authorizing Re- newal of Relations To Be Issued as Soon as Allies Outline Definite Policy

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Virtual decision has been reached by the American government, it is said, to permit resumption of trade relations with Soviet Russia as soon as the Allied governments have outlined a definite policy.

The first step by the Allies toward dealing commercially with Russia, since the decision on January 17 to permit trade with the Russian cooperative societies, was the announcement last week of the appointment of a commission to study the situation and report to the league of nations council.

Whether the United States will act upon the invitation of the Allies to send a representative as yet is uncertain, but in any event it is believed that the government will act as soon as the commission has returned and reported, probably early in the spring.

Under the present government, it is said, will be limited merely to an official statement of approval of trade with individuals by American firms, and it will not involve either recognition of the Soviet government or approval of trade directly with the Soviet administration.

In some quarters it is explained that the government doubts very seriously the successful consummation of schemes for the exploitation of Russia independently of the Soviet government, and that sanction of trade with individuals in Russia will be extended more as an experiment than through any confidence that such privilege in practice may prove feasible.

Recent reports indicated that Italy and the United States had agreed to trade with Russia, but that France had not given her approval. The Italian Premier, Nitti, has expressed himself in favor of the resumption of normal relations with Russia, and officials believe this points the way to a definite agreement.

Legion to Reconsider The Bonus Question

Special Conference, With Each State Represented, To Be Held in Washington

Special Dispatch to The Tribune

LOUISVILLE, Ky., March 7.—At the insistence of representatives from ten Southern States, assembled at Birmingham Saturday, resumption of the so-called "bonus" question on the part of the American Legion will be the subject of the special conference of Legionnaires, representing all states, at Washington, March 22.

Kentucky department officers of the Legion made that announcement to-night at the direction of Franklin D'Olier, national commander, Philadelphia, who passed through Louisville today on route to Indianapolis for the gathering at Birmingham.

Mr. D'Olier carried with him resolutions unanimously adopted at Birmingham, which asked reconsideration on the ground that "it was the announced policy of the American Legion to ask only such treatment as is consistent with the welfare of the whole country, and at the same time just and fair to former service men."

Girl, 19, Killed by Assassin; Another and Man Wounded

An unidentified assassin, lurking in a dark hallway in the heart of the city's Italian district, poured three shots from an automatic into a throng of pedestrians on Mulberry Street, early last evening. Each bullet found a mark. Two girls, one of whom died later in Volunteer Hospital, fell to the sidewalk. The third victim, a man who had been walking just behind them, ran to a drug store a block away, and there collapsed with a wound in his abdomen.

The slain girl was Lena Spinelli, nineteen, of 128 Baxter Street. Her companion was Josephine Gentile, eighteen, of 78 Mott Street. She is in a critical condition in Volunteer Hospital. The wounded man is Giuseppe De Cesari, thirty-six, of 167 Mulberry Street. He was removed to St. Vincent's Hospital and is not expected to live.

De Cesari, the police believe, was the intended victim of the gunman and knows his identity. He is the delegate of a barbers' local union, and is said to have been threatened recently by a fellow Italian whose sweetheart he won. De Cesari and Salvatore Guerriero, of 218 Elizabeth Street, left a coffee house on Mulberry Street shortly before 7 o'clock and walked north, arm in arm, up the west side of that thoroughfare. A few paces ahead of them strolled the Spinelli and Gentile girls and Margaret Montana, nineteen, of 79 Mott Street.

It was the last-named young woman, who, when the shots sounded, caught a glimpse of the slayer darting from a hallway across the way and disap-

Staten Island Grand Jurors To Quiz Craig

Hirshfield and Van Name Also to Appear To-day to Explain Board's Action on Carfare Raise

Investigators May Call Hylan Later

Borough in Darkness All Saturday Night; Secession Talk Grows

Comptroller Craig, Commissioner of Accounts Hirshfield and Borough President Van Name have been subpoenaed to appear this morning before the Richmond County grand jury in St. George, Staten Island, to be questioned concerning the Board of Estimate's reasons for refusing to sanction increased fares on the Midland Railroad Company lines, thus depriving a large portion of Staten Island of trolley service.

Upon what occurs at this session, it was stated last night, will depend whether or not the grand jury will subpoena Mayor Hylan and put him on the carpet.

Members of the grand jury felt free last night to predict that to-day's session will be a hot one. In common with other residents of the borough, the grand jurors have been waxing hotter under the collar every day over the situation and their temper has not been improved by the second breakdown within a week of the Richmond Light and Power Company's plant.

Island in Darkness

The island was in total darkness all Saturday night, and merchants say they lost \$150,000.

Not a wheel turned on the Richmond Light and Power trolley lines from 5:45 p. m. Saturday until 9 o'clock yesterday morning.

The suspension of the Midland lines and the frequent breakdowns of the R. L. & P. are recognized as separate and distinct grievances, they have combined to fan the secessionist sentiment among merchants, manufacturers and others.

"We'll never get anything while we remain an inconsequential part of the city," declared one merchant on every side. "A mayor and city government of our own is what we need."

The secessionist spirit has crystallized in a plan by the Staten Island Civic League to poll the residents of the borough on the proposal to cut away from New York City.

Louis A. Dreyfus, president of the league and head of a large rubber factory, declared yesterday that every member of the organization favors Staten Island setting up a municipal government of its own, but that definitely that the people as a whole are back of the idea is desired before the movement is actually got under way. A mass meeting to discuss it may be held in St. George within the next two weeks.

Others Favor Secession

Others who voted belief in secession as the only remedy for Richmond's ills were William Warrenton, president of the Warrenton Furniture Company, Stapleton; Charles Holbert, a director of the Richmond Borough National Bank, and Charles Bruns, president of the Staten Island Savings Bank.

"Staten Island is expected to pay a tax of 2.55 this year, which is 14 percent more than last year, and 10 more than any other borough will pay," said Mr. Bruns. "And yet Staten Island is given nothing in return. The money which will be given up for taxes is not returned, and would not only improve it but bring order out of the chaos which now exists."

A transit system was bad enough, but with last night's total darkness throughout the island the climax was reached. We are sick and tired of such treatment and unless we get immediate relief we shall join the secessionists."

Van Name Criticized

Incidentally, Borough President Van Name is not receiving any bouquets for the consideration he has obtained in the Board of Estimate for his constituents. Of course, it is realized that he has only one vote in the board. It is this feeling of resentment that it is anticipated, will blossom into being this morning's grand jury and find at least partial outlet in the grand jury.

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Republicans Plan Treaty To Quiz Craig

Bipartisan Modification of Article X Agreed On if Democrats Will Pledge Enough Votes

'Mild' Senators in Parley With Lodge

Result of Conference To Be Known by Tuesday; Borah Still Confident

From The Tribune's Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, March 7.—The Republicans in the Senate will make a last hour effort to save the peace treaty with Germany from a second defeat by offering to support the modified Lodge reservation to Article X that was submitted to President Wilson last week, provided the Democrats will pledge a sufficient number of votes to secure ratification on that basis.

The modified reservation that will be proposed in the Senate before the friends of the treaty abandon hope of ratification specifies that the United States assumes no obligation under Article X to use her military or naval forces, the economic boycott, diplomatic means or her financial or economic resources.

Republicans in Conference

The decision to make a further move for a compromise was made at a conference of Republican Senators to-day at the home of Senator Lodge. The nine "mild reservationists," who are once more in a position to control the situation in the Senate, attended, as did also Senators Brandegee, of Connecticut, an "irreconcilable," and Senator Lenroot, of Wisconsin, chief adviser to Senator Lodge in the treaty fight.

The conference was called to meet efforts of the Administration forces in the Senate to force the Republicans to assume sole responsibility for rejection of the treaty. The Democrats, aided by President Wilson's semi-official announcement that he would not deposit ratification with the original Lodge reservation and that he would deposit ratification if the bipartisan conference reservation was accepted, had expected the "mild reservationists" to join Senator Lodge and line up with them.

Forty Democrats have signed a pledge to vote for the bipartisan conference reservation, and they have been negotiating with the "mild reservationists" since the announcement at the White House yesterday in the hope of displacing the Lodge reservation with the bipartisan reservation with their help. The "mild reservationists" with the forty Democrats, would give the bipartisan conference reservation forty-nine votes, or a majority.

'Mild' Compromise Offered

The situation was thoroughly discussed at the conference at Senator Lodge's house. The "mild reservationists" promised Senator Lodge that they would stand with the other Republican Senators against the Democratic move to force the Republicans to assume sole responsibility for rejection of the treaty.

"The United States assumes no obligation to preserve by the use of its military or naval forces, the economic boycott, diplomatic means or economic or financial resources, the territorial integrity or political independence of any other nation under the provisions of Article X or to employ the military or naval forces of the United States to enforce any article of the treaty for any purpose, unless in any particular case the Congress, which, under the Constitution, has the sole power to declare war, shall by act of joint resolution, so provide."

The reservation was drafted by the "mild reservationists" and submitted to Senator Lodge a week ago. Last week

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Joachim Attacks French Officers

Prince Starts Fight When Visitors Keep Seats as National Air Is Played

BERLIN, March 7.—(By The Associated Press).—The fashionable Adlon Hotel dining room was the scene of a rough and tumble fight last night between Prince Joachim Albrecht of Prussia, a cousin of the former German Emperor, and his guests, and Captains Klein and Roughevin and Madam Klein, members of the French mission. The hostilities were due to the French people refusing to stand while the orchestra was playing "Deutschland Uber Alles."

Joachim and his friends hurled cans, crockery and other things at the French party, and Captain Klein was beaten and his clothes were torn. Captain Klein was escorted out of the dining room by waiters, who defended him.

The episode apparently was planned by Joachim, who has the reputation of being a Pan-German Extremist. It is said he virtually has been barred from other hotels of Berlin where he has attempted similar outbreaks against foreigners.

Many members of the foreign commissions in Berlin live at the Adlon, and Joachim recently has been appearing there nightly, wearing his Iron Cross and ordering the orchestra to play "Deutschland Uber Alles." Two former military officers, Baron von Platen and Herr Griebel, accompanied Joachim last night.

A majority of the guests in the dining room rose when the orchestra started the air, and Joachim's party began to hurl bottles and other missiles at the table where the French party were seated when they failed to rise. The waiters got Madame Klein out of the room during the melee, but the German band kept on playing, and the waiters, some of whom were without a chair.

Wilson Rejects Premiers' Plan To Settle Adriatic Controversy; Won't Recognize Secret Treaties

Text of President's Note

WASHINGTON, March 7.—President Wilson's latest note to the British and French premiers relative to the Adriatic controversy, which was dispatched March 4 but not made public until to-day, follows:

"The President desires to express his sincere and cordial interest in the response of the French and British Prime Ministers received on February 27. He notes with satisfaction their unaltered desire to reach an equitable solution in conformity alike with the principles of the peace conference and of the legitimate, though conflicting, aspirations, of the Italian and Jugo-Slav peoples. He further welcomes their expressed intention regarding certain essential points to 'urge upon the governments interested that they should bring their desires into line with the American point of view.'"

Agreement of December 9 Held Permanent Basis

"The President is surprised, however, that they should find in the statement of his own willingness to leave to the joint agreement of Italy and Jugo-Slavia the settlement of 'their common frontiers in the Fiume region' any ground for suggesting the withdrawal of the joint memorandum of December 9. In this he could not possibly join. The memorandum represents deliberate and disinterested judgment after months of earnest discussion. It constituted more than a mere exchange of views. It was a statement of principles and a recapitulation of the chief points upon which agreement had been reached. There was thus afforded a summary review of these points of agreement of the French, British and American governments, and the memorandum should remain as it was intended to be—the basis of reference representing the combined opinion of these governments."

"In referring to the 'common frontier in the Fiume region' the President had in mind the express desire of the two interested governments to abandon the project of the free state of Fiume as defined in the memorandum of December 9. If, as he understands, the government of Italy and the government of the Serb-Croat-Slovene state prefer to abandon the so-called buffer state containing an overwhelming majority of Jugo-Slavs and desire to limit the proposed free state to the corpus separat of Fiume, placing the sovereignty in the league of nations without either Italian or Jugo-Slav control, then the government of the United States is prepared to accept this proposal and is willing under such circumstances to leave the determination of the common frontier to Italy and Jugo-Slavia."

Italian-Jugo-Slav Convention Favored

"In this connection the President desires to reiterate that he would gladly approve a mutual agreement between the Italian and Jugo-Slav governments reached without prejudice to the territorial or other interests of any third nation, but Albanian questions should not be included in the proposed joint discussion of Italy and Jugo-Slavia, and the President must reaffirm that he cannot possibly approve any plan which assigns to Jugo-Slavia in the northern districts of Albania territorial compensation for what she is deprived of elsewhere. Concerning the economic outlets for Jugo-Slavia in the region of Scutari suggested in the note under reply, the President desires to refer

France Holds U. S. Can't Mix In Turkish Row

Right to Express Opinion Declared to Have Been Sacrificed by Refusal to Take Armenian Mandate

By Ralph Courtney

Special Cable to The Tribune

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PARIS, March 7.—In official circles here it is stated that despite certain unexpectedness about President Wilson's actions, which make difficult prophecy as to just what he will do, the French government does not anticipate American intervention in the question of Constantinople.

The French hold that America has no right to express an opinion regarding Turkish settlement after refusing to accept her portion of Turkish responsibility when the question first arose at the peace conference.

In the Adriatic problem there already had existed a "Wilson line" but in the case of Turkey America's right to point back to and insist upon upholding. The French government never even was informed on the results of the American mission's investigation of Turkish-Armenian questions. Nevertheless, if despite these considerations America expresses her official opinion on Turkey it will be received with politeness and consideration due to the wishes of a great nation. Every consideration will be given the reasons underlying America's conclusions.

But according to the French official opinion, the Turkish question already has been decided once and for all in London, and there is no going back on the decisions already taken. The Turks will remain in Constantinople, although Cecla may rail and Asquith may oppose and Northcliff may agitate.

Even America's wish regarding Turkey

Good Morning!

If you have lost your automobile, negotiable securities, jewelry or other valuables call the Good Morning Girl, Bookman 3000, and let her insert an advertisement for you in to-morrow's Tribune.

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